

4-16-98



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Campus Scene

PESSA

PESSA (Pre-medical Engineering and Science Scholars Association) will be holding a car wash and barbeque on April 18. The event will be in parking lot B from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This event is a fundraiser, cars will be washed for donations.

TALENT SHOW

Attention all faculty and students, there will be a talent show on April 27.

There are no auditions needed to participate. Those who are interested need to sign up in Campus Center 100 no later than noon on April 24.

The show will be from 12-2 p.m. in Monarch Hall.

"SLANG WITH A BANG"

There is now an audio-tape that teaches listeners to use slang and other American expression in a humorous manner. The cassette, created by Harriet Steinburg can be purchased in the Valley bookstore.

ART ALERT

Enteries are being sought for a fine-art competitions organized by the California State Fair to be held from Aug. 21-Sept. 7.

Up to 190 artworks from California artists 18 and older will be accepted. Cash awards will total up to \$14,560.

There are several divisions of artwork to compete in including two and three-dimensional art and photography.

For more information call (916) 263-3146 or send for a handbook and entry information at California Works, California State Fair, P.O. Box 15649, Sacramento, CA 95852.

Hip, hop, hippity, hop. . .

Children enjoy Spring Celebration



Numerous children throughout the San Fernando Valley frolicked through the grass in Monarch Square in search of the hidden Easter eggs.

EASTER FESTIVITIES: One of ASU's largest productions proved to be successful as the Easter bunny greeted children and faces were painted to celebrate the season of spring at Valley.

BY NANCY BARAHONA
STAR REPORTER

Spring was celebrated at Valley College on April 9 at Monarch Square from noon to 2 p.m.

"I thought it was highly successful. It was our first year and we were surprised by the turnout so we were happy to put this on," said Norma Hans-Hernandez, treasurer of the Associated Student Union, who organized the event.

The Spring Celebration included face and finger painting, musical chairs, cookie deco-

rating, a game of Let's Pretend, an Easter egg hunt, and a visit from the Easter bunny.

"I was the Easter bunny because it's nice to do something for the children that doesn't cost money," said Stefano Bloch, commissioner of public relations from the Associated Student Union.

"I was surprised to see the turnout, it was a great idea from Norma (Hernandez-Hans). 'I'll be coming back next semester from the University of California, Santa Cruz to be the Easter bunny again because I had so much fun.'"

The Spring Celebration was sponsored by a committee from ASU. Clubs that participated in the celebration include: Tau Alpha Epsilon, Valley Collegiate Players, Jewish Student League, and Phi Theta Kappa.

"I'd like to thank everyone for bringing their children and the committee from ASU

and the Broadcasting Club for publicizing it," said Hans. "With everyone working together it was a success."



Carola Danielsson/Special to the Valley Star
The Easter Bunny hugged children of all ages.

Every vote counts. . .



Valley students compare votes for next fall's ASU officers. Results will be posted in next week's issue.

Dean's reception honors hundreds

By ALEXIS SCALICE
STAR REPORTER

Hundreds of students gathered with family members and friends to celebrate the honor of making the Dean's List.

TAE (Tau Alpha Epsilon) hosted the event that was held in Monarch Hall at 2 p.m. President of TAE Stefano

Bloch was satisfied with the preparations and outcome of the event.

"The Dean's reception is a great event. TAE and everyone else did a super job as usual," said Bloch.

After a welcoming speech by ASU President Lorenzo Trujillo and President Tyree

Wieder, Vice President of Academic Affairs and President of the Academic Senate Leon Marzillier offered congratulations to the numerous students being honored.

Bloch introduced the guest

SEE HONOR page 4

GMC offers internship

By ANITA TORRES
STAR REPORTER

Students of the Valley College Management 13 class presented their plans for a promotional event in the Multi Media Room on Friday.

The students are organizing the event through the General Motors Marketing Internship program which is run through the Management 13 class. The program is new to Valley College this semester, but has been implemented in schools across the country since 1991.

With the help of a \$2500 budget from the internship program.

The class has named their group "Spread the Sound Marketing," the name the group has given themselves, has planned an event to promote the Pontiac Sunfire.

"We chose this car because it is in the price range that students can afford," said Fatin Sako, Management Coordinator of Spread the Sound Marketing.

In planning for their campaign, the group took a survey of Valley College students. One of the questions asked

was if the student had ever heard of the Pontiac Sunfire. According to Rita Bush, who presented the group's research results, most students surveyed did not know much about the car.

According to the group, their objectives are to increase consumer awareness of the Pontiac Sunfire and to satisfy their sponsor, Pontiac GMC.

The marketing group plans on attaining this goal through a promotional campaign that they will host on April 29.

The campaign, which is themed "Fun in the Sun," will be for one day only, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Campus Center.

At the event, a Pontiac Sunfire convertible will be on display. Students will be invited to sit in the car and listen to a short recording about some of the car's features.

After doing this, students will be given a voucher to play a game. Participants can win prizes such as key chains and calling cards.

After the campaign is over, the marketing group will take a post survey to see if their goal was attained.



What's so bad about the Cafeteria?

MAGIC TOPPIN
STAR REPORTER

Recent weeks have seen verbal attacks on the Valley College's Cafeteria since it received a "B" from the County Health Department.

But is there really anything wrong with the school cafeteria? Everyday I hear students rant about the prices, cleanliness and service of the cafeteria. Is there any point to argue about the quality of a cafeteria that has been understaffed, and has been given the cold shoulder from the administration?

Sure, I agree cafeteria prices are not cheap. However, the price range for a burger and fries are definitely lower than what the average university in the California system charges.

When I went to UCLA and bought a burger and fries, the price came out to \$3.85. For the same fare, Valley's cafeteria prices are about a dollar less than what UCLA charges.

Also, it is known that school prices for food are lower than McDonalds, Burger King, and Jack-In-The Box. When I went to McDonalds I spent \$3.56 cents for a burger, fries, and a drink. The school cafeteria charges about \$2.70 for the same thing including a refill for 30 cents if you buy a special cup. Why complain when the cafeteria charges less than most of the fast food area in Van Nuys?

When it comes to cleanliness, the school cafeteria is much cleaner compared to many of the restaurants in the city of Los Angeles. Hundreds of restaurants were closed in the Van Nuys area because of health violations. The cafeteria management is in the process of trying to rectify the violations that caused them to receive the grade of "B." However, without a serious budget to work with, we all must understand the consequences.

Give the men and women who work in the cafeteria a break. They work very hard for very little pay. If someone has a problem with that, let them eat somewhere else.

What's the deal with... George Michael getting arrested?



DEEANNE
McCLAIN
STAR REPORTER

A walk through the park will never be the same.

When George Michael was arrested last week for committing a lewd act in a Beverly Hills park restroom, the whole world became suddenly aware of a sexual trend that has been going on under our noses for quite some time. Because it was someone famous there was an immediate media frenzy.

Parents everywhere fell in line to criticize Michael for being a perverted deviant, terrified of what would have happened had their child been the one to discover him. One valley college student whispered to me in class, "If my kid would have walked in and found that pig, I would have shot him!" A little extreme?

I know that what Michael did was certainly not socially acceptable or appropriate. However, do we really need to arrest someone for doing their thing in a restroom?

Okay, okay, let's look at the whole kids at the park thing.

I happen to be a mother of a nine-year-old boy and I admit that I certainly would not want my child being

exposed to that kind of behavior. Although my gut tells me that Michael and those like him are not into exposing themselves to young children.

I just don't see the purpose in arresting them, nor in spending tax dollars to pay for under cover police officers to organize sting operations. Why not just have a couple of beat officers in uniform to dissuade those interested from using that particular locale?

It would further seem that a simple verbal warning would be sufficient. Radio talk show feminist, Tammy Bruce said on her show last Saturday that it would make more sense to just ask them to leave the park. "I don't get why we need to make such a big deal about it," Bruce said. "Just send them on their way." She makes a good point.

If some form of punishment is required, why not just a citation for indecent exposure? It further wastes tax dollars to go through the arrest and court procedures when the city could conceivably earn a few bucks just by writing the guy a ticket. Don't our police and courts have more pressing matters to attend to?

The media circus is yet another example of a waste of time and money. Not only did Michael have to endure the humiliation of being scrutinized by the public and hounded by the press, he also explained his behavior to

the public in an interview with CNN.

Is all this hoopla really necessary? Do we really care that much about other's somewhat bizarre sexual habits that we need to examine them on national television? Do we need to be that afraid?

In his interview, Michael publicly announced that he is gay. Duh! Like everyone didn't already know! Why the media is now heralding him as a wonderful guy who just admitted to the inappropriateness of his crime I will never understand. He is not a spokesperson for all gays.

One Valley College who wishes to be known as J.P. told me, "All gays do that weird stuff. I just wish they'd keep it to themselves."

This citizen obviously has no gay friends. All one has to do is look at the personal ads in the LA Weekly to see that there are just as many (if not more) heterosexuals who have weird sexual habits. That behavior certainly does not speak for us all.

Once again, this is a case of the media going berserk over some tabloid issue that really doesn't deserve or require all the attention it is getting. Why do we need to waste precious air time discussing someone's sexual motives?

Just write the guy a ticket and call it a day.

Get it off your chest... Generation X gets a bum rap

By REBEKAH FOWLER
STAR REPORTER

Generation X, children of the baby boomers has been stereotyped as reckless dreamers with no compassion, a generation that's a lost cause.

Teenagers have been tagged the troublesome generation for years, it is a label which changes with each generation. Teenagers in the 50's were the Bohemians, the 60's they were called the Flower children and the 70's the Hippies.

Today's bothersome youth which includes college students and young adults are considered the most useless bunch of brats to make it past puberty.

Not everyone born in the 70's and 80's consider themselves a part of generation X because it is a negative label. Many skeptics chose to believe the stereotypes because they rarely hear anything positive about today's youth.

What is happening to teenagers and young adults to cause them to behave so recklessly? Perhaps they just don't give a darn. After all, don't they have their entire lives to live?

Mike Forbes is 20 and a self proclaimed member of generation X. He is a Valley student who is fed up with the bad reputation associated with the

X generation.

"I would like to enlighten all those critics who put down teenagers and young adults," Forbes said. "I believe in my generation."

Forbes and several other people witnessed an older man fall while trying to cross the street. The man hit his head on the concrete it split his head open. He was knocked out for a few seconds, Forbes said.

The witnesses blocked the intersection while Forbes and another 20 year old male, cleaned the man's wounds, and retrieved his groceries which were thrown in the street.

"Everyone worked together to make sure that he was okay," Forbes said. "Usually people just drive by but four cars formed a blockade away from traffic which allowed us to help the elderly gentleman."

I guess this blows a hole in the theory, no one gives a damn anymore. Humanitarians and good Samaritans still exist. Kudos to the decent people who stopped to help the wounded man.

If you would like to share a positive experience with the readers of the star get in touch with us via our e-mail address: ValleyStar@Yahoo.com. Drop a letter in one of the Valley Star mail boxes around campus or visit us in BJ 114.

HERE'S A TIP... Be true to your server!



ALEXIS SCALICE
STAR REPORTER

"Give me the Red Snapper, no paprika, with the fresh vegetables, but with no seasoning and no

It is understandable to completely nullify every piece of this article if the service is unfavorable.

Who would tip a lousy server who brought out the wrong meal, slapped plates on the table and never checked back later. However, the fact still remains that there are hard working servers who are left with pennies or a shining table with only their reflection to stare back at them.

Part of this neglect to compensate servers can be attributed to the misconception that the price a customer is paying for their meal includes the luxury of being served. WRONG! Servers are a separate entity of the food business. Of course restaurants attain their meals at a wholesale price as any economical company would do. However, those mark ups on the menus pay for their multiple expenses, such as decorations, menu print outs, overhead, wages, etc.

Without tips, servers are paid minimum wage and no one can live on that, no matter how many pennies are saved. It is a server's tips that pay their bills, put food in their mouths and clothes on their backs. It is a job devoted to customer service and deserves to be respected and rewarded.

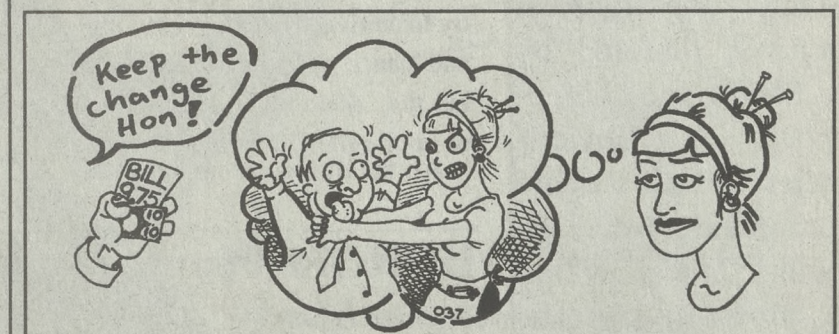
Anyone in an apron, with a smile, who puts forth the effort to provide one a pleasurable evening while dining out, deserves equal gratification. Anything else would be unjustified.

butter, the steamed potatoes, salad with only romaine lettuce and ranch on the side, and a Diet Coke easy on the ice."

That was one order out of the party of nine Suzy Sunshine server is about to take. No matter how complicated each request may be, she must keep a bright smile on her face and say "of course," or "no problem, ma'am."

Welcome to the life of thousands of waiters and waitresses. It is a job that is highly underrated. The general tipping policy is supposed to be 15 percent.

However, there are many individuals within our society who feel that tipping their server properly is unnecessary or do not believe in the concept at all. For those people, I offer this advice, become true to Burger King or food establishments that offer buffets. If one decides to dine in a restaurant and be served, he/she should be prepared to fork over extra money for the individual who spends the time taking the order.



Penny for your thoughts...

SYLVIA ARONSON
STAR REPORTER

I've been coming to Valley for four years. Valley College has very good instructors, especially in the Art Department, they are absolutely fantastic. For me, it's worth it to come from Palmdale to Valley.

I am majoring in Graphics and Photography.
-Julius Ngeru

Respiratory therapy is my major. I've been coming here for one year. I attended Pierce College for five years. I am studying respiratory therapy because I am influenced by my mother. She is a nurse.

I wish that the learning center was open in the evening. The Learning Center is very helpful. But I think they should have some evening hours available to the students. Some students work during the day. I have worked at AT&T for over a year now. I took the day off to get some help from a counselor regarding my major.

-Ravi Kumar

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For Your Information

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Could Pets Be Next Prescription for Health?

By LINDA E. THOMAS
STAR REPORTER

Millions of American students come home each day happily greeted by friendly wags, purrs or chirps. Whether for companionship, protection or a little TLC, there's no question that pets play a big role in many of our lives.

More than 60 percent of all households in America have some kind of companion pet. Americans spend nearly \$12 billion on their pets annually, just in veterinary care alone, according to last year's statistics. In a recent national survey, pet owners confessed that they really do treat their pets like VIPs: buy them gifts; include them in holidays; and even sing to them.

But, not only do Americans love their pets, recent studies reveal that pets could offer significant health benefits in return, to both psychological and physical well-being.

Psychological Health Benefits

According to an American Hospital Association study, pets can have a significant influence on human psychology. The study shows that people around pets smile and talk more, and that being with pets could combat depression.

Dr. Stephen Saltzman Valley College psych was willing to speculate on why pets could offer people psychological benefits.

"Human beings have a special need to give," Saltzman said. "It's easier to give to pets. Pets unconditionally accept, with no interpretations." Unlike human beings, who may feel burdened when given a gift, pets never question why they are being given to, he said.

Also, some people find it easier to express affection to a pet rather than to another person, Saltzman said.

"Interestingly, many people can say loving words to pets, but not to people," Saltzman said. "Maybe because the words come with no judgment, no baggage." When people say, "I love you," to other people, they often have to define their terms and explain what they mean, he said. But, a person never has to do that with a pet, he said.

Secondly, pets unconditionally give in return, and receiving a pet's love and attention is very powerful for a human being, Saltzman said. Third, people have a deep desire to control, and a pet allows them to gain some control outside of themselves, she said.

"And, it's easier to control an animal than people, or the weather or traffic," Saltzman said.

Pets also serve as valuable companions to many, which could avert loneliness.

"Most human beings have an uncomfortable feeling with loneliness," Saltzman said. "And, therefore, a pet can provide companionship of some kind to fill that void."

Physical Health Benefits

In addition to making us feel good, a number of studies indicate that pets could affect physical health as well.

"Some research shows that simply watching a gold fish swimming in a bowl lowers blood pressure," Saltzman said.

Along with America's love affair with pets, may come healthier hearts. According to a National Institutes of Health report, the presence of pets may promote a measure of protection from heart disease.

Looking for a Pet? Here's about How Much one may set you back:

DOGS

\$0 Adopted Unregistered
\$400-700 Registered
\$300-450 Annual Food
\$100 Normal Annual Vet
1/2-1 Hr. Per Day in Time

CATS

\$25 Unregistered
\$100-400 Registered
\$80-120 Annual Food
\$50-100 Normal Annual Vet
15 Min. Per Day in Time

FISH

\$.10 - \$100
\$20 Annual Food
\$0 Normal Annual Vet
5-10 Min. Per Day in Time

Information provided by pet expert
Mark Rose, owner of Newhall Pets.

Hall of Fame

Yesterday

Toto: Dorothy's sidekick. Born in Kansas, but really went places.

Lassie: Probably the most famous pet of all time, but like they say, he can never go home again.

Trigger: Roy Roger's hero. Still "lives" stoday in all his horsey glory, stuffed in the Roger's Museum

Rin Tin Tin: Entertained millions during their din din (din).

Today

Socks: aka The First Cat. Home: The White House. Next secret witness in the Monica Lewinsky case.

Dinky: "Yo Quiero Taco Bell" celebrity Chihuahua. Center of national commercial scandal.

Leonardo Dicaprio's lizard "Bliz": A really great swimmer.

Leonardo Dicaprio's anything: A really great

" In ancient times, cats were worshipped as gods. They have never forgotten this. -- Unknown

No matter how much cats fight, there always seems to be plenty of kittens. -- Abraham Lincoln

Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but won't buy the wag of his tail. -- Henry Wheeler Shaw

I loathe people who keep dogs. They are cowards who have not got the guts to bite people themselves. -- August Strinberg

My dog is worried about the economy because Alpo is up to \$.99 a can. That's almost \$7 in dog money. -- Joe Weinstein

If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons. -- James Thurber

They won't allow dogs on campus, because they can't charge them for books. -- Anonymous Valley College Student

Both my husband and my dog have kept my bed warm at night, but my husband doesn't wag his tail. My dog, however, never brought me coffee. -- Pat Allen, Sociology Professor Valley College

Do not tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish. -- Mark Twain

When the mouse laughs at the cat, there is a hole nearby. -- Nigerian Proverb

"

In the News

Spay or pay in L.A. proposed

In order to crack down on irresponsible dog breeding in Los Angeles and control overpopulation, a proposal to raise dog licensing fees from \$30 to \$500 for unneutered dogs has been made, local authorities report.

Clinton names new buddy

President Clinton has finally named his new puppy "Buddy." The First Puppy, a chocolate-colored Labrador, is named after Clinton's deceased uncle who was a dog trainer for many years.

Parrots are no birdbrains

Recent studies reveal that parrots, like chimps and dolphins, are capable of mastering complex intellectual concepts that human children cannot manage until about age 5. Parrots have been found to name 50 objects, know colors and numbers, and understand same/different concepts. Parrots score as high or higher than dolphins and great apes in intelligence tests.

Group no quiero Taco Bell dog

A Latino civil rights group has protested against the new Taco Bell television commercials featuring a Spanish speaking Chihuahua. The group claims the ads are demeaning to Mexican-Americans. Taco Bell claims the commercials portray Mexican heritage as cool and hip.

Britain bans cosmetic testing

Britain cosmetic companies have voluntarily stopped testing cosmetics on animals at the request of the British government for a ban. Officials also announced plans to tighten laws on scientific research using animals and to ban experimentation on chimps.

Dogs are a woman's best friend

Though dogs may be tagged a "man's best friend," the odds are that a pet's best friend is a woman. According to a recent study, women are the primary animal caretakers in 72.2 percent of pet-owning households. The ratio of female to male caretakers rises to 3-to-1 in the 19-49 age group. The pattern is evident among owners of all species of pets.

Microchipping makes happy reunions

Only 16 percent of dogs and two percent of cats among the millions of lost pets that wind up in shelters are ever reclaimed by their owners. Microchipping is becoming a popular way to make a difference between a sad end and a happy reunion. A tiny computer-programmed information chip, small enough to fit inside a hypodermic needle, can be injected under the skin of dogs, cats, birds and other animals. The procedure is no more painful than a vaccination. Universal scanners are used with a 98 percent success rate. The procedure with chip costs about \$25-\$55 and registration in a nationwide data base costs about \$9-\$25 for a one-time fee.

Help Your Pet Beat the Heat

With summer kicking off in a few weeks, it's time to consider our pets.

Pets require extra protection from the summer's scorching temperatures.

The American Veterinary Medicine Association offers a few suggestions:

Never leave your dog or other pet inside a parked car: When it's only 85 degrees outside, even parked in the shade with the windows down, a car will reach 102 degrees in ten minutes inside and 120 degrees in 30 minutes.

Never walk a dog during mid-day: When leaving for work, set the thermostat for 80 degrees or below. Never leave a pet in a garage without air conditioning.

Never shave a pet's fur for the summer: Do not have a pet's fur shaved off of the summer. The pet's fur acts as insulation not only from the cold, but also from the heat.

Never leave a pet without ample water: Fill a child's plastic pool with fresh water for a yard pet. Beware of "lickit" spouts which can get too hot to lick for water. Try dumping several trays of ice cubes in a bowl or bucket for cool water as the ice melts.

Never put a metal chain on a dog in summer: A metal choke chain or collar with metal on it turns into a branding iron in the summer, which can cause a dog, or cat, to suffer serious burns.



Want to know more about pets?
Check out these web sites:

American Animal Hospital Assoc.
American Human Society
American Pet Association
American Veterinary Medical Assoc.
Human Society of U.S.
Pets Welcome Lodging
U.S.A. Today Pet Site

www.healthypet.com
www.americanhumane.com
www.apapets.com
www.avma.org
www.hsus.org
www.petswelcome.com
www.cyberpet.com

